

DECISION RECORD  
and  
FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT  
for  
CAMPBELL TRACT ASPEN REGENERATION AND HAZARD TREE REMOVAL

I. Decision:

It is my decision to thin and fence selected aspen stands as described in the subject EA, cut and remove dead spruce hazard trees adjacent to the Viewpoint Trail and Communication Site Access Road, and revegetate portions of two aircraft taxiways on the Campbell Tract (CT) Facility.

II. Rationale for the Decision:

The CT is within the geographic boundary of the Alaska Southcentral Planning Area Management Framework Plan (MFP), dated March 1980. The Proposed Action is consistent with the rationale found in the MFP decisions.

The decision to implement the Proposed Action was made for several reasons. There is a potential danger to recreation users of falling trees due to a spruce bark beetle epidemic which has killed many white spruce trees on the CT and the surrounding area. Aspen stands on the CT are becoming overmature and stagnant, and without treatment, will eventually cease to be a viable component in the natural vegetation on the CT. Thinning and fencing an existing aspen stand will allow new regeneration to occur which will enhance overall forest health and stand vigor.

Planting sapling size trees across abandoned aircraft taxiways will create a visual and mechanical barrier that will inhibit access to an active airstrip. Visitor and aircraft user safety will be enhanced by making it more difficult for inadvertent airstrip incursions to occur.

The BLM's mission to manage public lands in Alaska will continue into the foreseeable future. Protecting the CT by accomplishing the proposed projects will enable BLM to continue in this mission.

III. Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI):

Based upon the analysis of the potential environmental impacts, I have determined that the impacts are not expected to be significant and that an environmental impact statement is not required. The impacts from tree removal, thinning, fencing, and replanting on the CT were determined to be minor.

IV. ANILCA Section 810 Compliance:

The CT lands are Federal Public Land as defined in the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA), Section 810 and fall under the authority of the Federal

Subsistence Board and the Subsistence Regulations for the Harvest of Fish and Wildlife on Federal Public Lands in Alaska. The CT lies within the Anchorage Management Unit of Game Management Unit 14C which under the current Subsistence Regulations noted above is closed to the taking of wildlife under both State (hunting and trapping) and Federal Subsistence Regulations. Further, the taking of wildlife on the CT is limited by Supplemental Rules issued on November 20, 1998 under 43 CFR 8365.1-6 that close the CT to the use of firearms, archery equipment, traps or snares. The CT has no documented consistent use by rural Alaskans of fish or game and no knowledge of such use has become available since the inception of the Federal Subsistence Program or the issuance of the above noted Supplementary Rules.

V. Adverse Energy Impact Compliance

This action has been analyzed as required by Washington Office Instruction Memorandum 2002-053 to determine if it will cause an adverse impact on energy development. The action will not have an adverse direct or indirect impact on energy development, production or distribution. The preparation of a Statement of Adverse Energy Impact is not required.

/s/ June Bailey  
Anchorage Field Office Manager

June 30, 2004  
Date

2 Attachments

- 1-Stipulations (1 pg)
- 2-AK-040-04-EA-030 (12 pgs)